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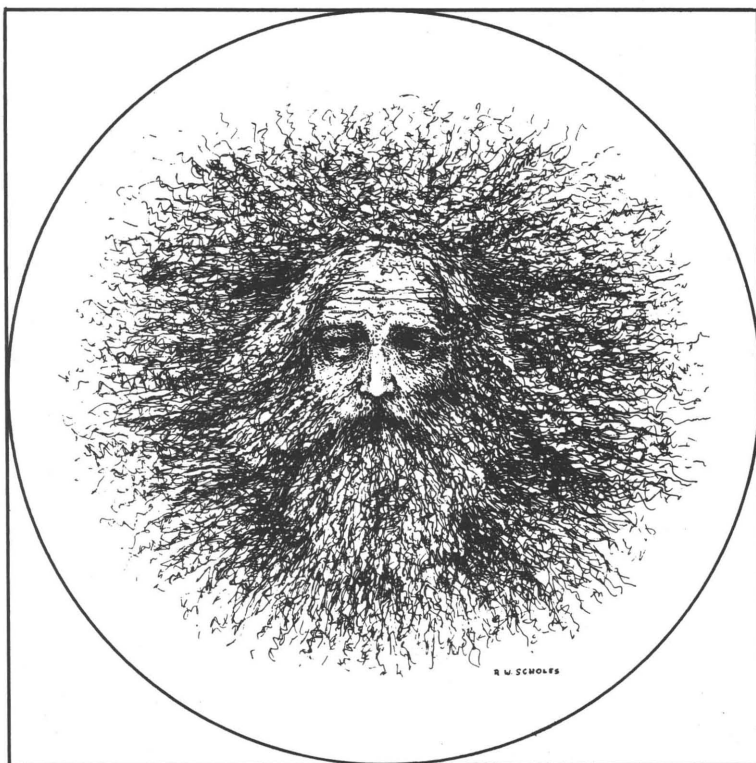
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Cover graphic by Randall W. Scholes

Back cover: Whitman: Unrecorded Notes on Health [PLATE]

EDITORS' NOTE

Some of the most innovative and interesting recent criticism on *Leaves of Grass* has dealt with linguistic theory; one of the most fertile approaches has been Speech Act theory and the whole notion of the "orality" of Whitman's poetry. In this issue, *WWQR* offers a forum on these issues, with an essay by Mark Bauerlein that challenges some of the assumptions of this recent Whitman criticism, and a response by C. Carroll Hollis, author of *Language and Style in "Leaves of Grass"* and winner of last year's Feinberg Award for his essay on "Rhetoric, Elocution, and Voice in *Leaves of Grass*." The editors invite further discussion of the important issues raised by these pieces.